ABSTRACT

A method is described for enhancing a digital image channel, particularly where the digital image channel is split into pedestal and texture signals that substantially comprise the digital image channel. The method utilizes a predetermined tone scale conversion to enhance the digital image channel. Initially, image values are provided from the pedestal signal corresponding to image pixels from a region of the image. Then, a statistical characteristic of the image pixels in the region is identified, and the predetermined tone scale conversion is normalized for the statistical characteristic in order to generate a normalized tone scale conversion. The normalized tone scale conversion is then performed on a central pixel of the region in order to generate a pedestal signal with enhanced image values; and the pedestal signal with enhanced image values is combined with the texture signal to generate an enhanced digital image channel.